



**Dear Parents/ Carers of Classes 4D, 4F and 4H**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the children to an exciting year. This is the first of our Year 4 bulletins in which we aim to provide you with a brief outline of the curriculum areas covered this term.

**Homework:**

Spellings: Spelling rules will be taught every **Tuesday**, and we will test the children the following **Tuesday**. At the start of every half term, we will send home a list of the words and this also can be found on the school website. To help prepare for their tests we will set a weekly SpellingShed.co.uk activity.

Mymaths: Homework will be uploaded on a **Thursday** and should be completed by the following **Thursday**. Please speak to your class teacher if you have any trouble accessing it. The homework will be linked to what the children have been learning in class that week.

Times tables: In Year 4, the children will be required to know all of the times table facts up to 12 x 12 and the related division facts. Please help your child to become fluent with these and ensure they are able to answer questions out of order. Please practise weekly!

Reading: We encourage the children to read for 20 minutes minimum every day at home, both independently and, where possible, to an adult. Five entries are expected per week in their diary and the children are encouraged to make a comment on what they have read. Children have the opportunity to do a quiz every morning on the books they have read on Renaissance Reading to earn word points.

**English:**

This term we will be linking our writing to our War topic. For the first half-term, we will be reading Michael Morpurgo's 'Friend or Foe' and focusing on descriptive writing and diary entry. In the second half of the term, we will focus on war poetry, non-fiction writing and instructions. Key grammar and punctuation skills will be taught within these lessons along with spelling lessons, handwriting and reading comprehension practice.

**Maths:**

We will be working from the 2014 Primary Curriculum for mathematics and focusing on:  
Place value  
Addition and Subtraction  
Multiplication and Division  
Measurement: Area

In Year 4, there is a focus on reasoning, problem-solving and multiplication skills. All children will be sitting the government-set 'Multiplication check' in the Summer term. Please help your children to be as fluent as possible with these. We will start the year by recapping the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8-times tables and then we will move on to the 6, 9 and 7s followed by the 11 and 12s. The children will have weekly speed tests and be shown a variety of tips, tricks and online games that can aid their learning.

**Science:**

Our Science topic for this half term is 'Electricity'; the children will be exploring where electricity comes from, how to make a circuit and why some materials are better conductors than others. During the second half of the term, the children will be exploring 'States of matter' where they will learn about how solids, liquids and gases change and the water cycle. The children will be involved in a range of practical and investigative activities based on these themes.

### **Topic – History and Geography:**

The topic for this term is 'Sheen in the War Years', focusing on World War II (WW2) and its effect on the lives of men, women and children on both a local (Sheen) and national scale. We will be looking at themes such as evacuation, rationing, the Blitz and life on the home front. If any children have a family link to WW2, we would love to hear about it.

The Year 4 WW2 assembly to parents will be held on **Wednesday 1st November**. There will be a WW2 workshop booked for the Year 4 children on **Thursday 9th November**; information about the cost and costumes for this day will be sent out shortly.

### **Creative Arts:**

We will be continuing our war theme in art. The children will be exploring the use of colour to achieve specific effects when sketching and painting poppies. In D&T, the children will be making their own poppies to wear as well as designing and making their own model Anderson shelters.

### **P.E.:**

Teacher led PE will be on a Tuesday morning. Year 4 will be working on gymnastics; children will be developing key skills to perform different movements and/or developing teamwork skills through invasion games. **Children should come to school wearing their ESPS P.E. kits on Tuesday mornings (suitable for outdoor PE)**. On a Friday, Year 4 have their NSSport lesson in the afternoon. Children must come into school wearing their PE kits and **do not** have to change back into their uniforms. **Please ensure your child is wearing the correct ESPS kit**. Swimming lessons will continue in Year 4, **starting with 4F** in the Autumn term. A letter to parents of 4F will have already been sent out with more details.

### **R.E.:**

Across this term, our RE focus will be Hinduism. The children will be exploring religious signs, symbols and the meaning of Diwali.

### **P.S.H.E.:**

In PSHE lessons, we will continue to use Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) which is a teaching and learning programme that includes the statutory RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) curriculum and has a strong focus on emotional and mental health and wellbeing. This term, the children will learn about 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'.

### **Computing:**

The children will participate in weekly sessions. Before half-term, children will learn to work collaboratively online in a responsible and considerate way, using a range of collaborative tools for word-processing, surveys, forms and spreadsheets. After half-term, children will learn more coding skills using Scratch.

### **Thinking Schools:**

The children will continue to use tools from their 'Thinking School' toolkit, including thinking maps, thinking hats and habits of mind. The 'Thinking School' methodologies aim to equip children with the thinking skills needed to effectively tackle problems across and beyond the curriculum, both at school and in the future, through deep and critical thinking.

### **Music (KS2):**

This year, children will be taught music by specialist teacher, Miss Imogen Ridge. As well as weekly singing assemblies and regular singing in class, children will listen to, perform and explore a wide range of music. In Year 4 this term, the children will be exploring descriptive sounds and rhythmic patterns.

### **Henley Fort:**

One of the main highlights of Year 4 at ESPS is the opportunity to visit Henley Fort as a residential trip. You will shortly receive a letter and information pack about the trip.

Please find attached a weekly timetable with key information. We look forward to maintaining a successful partnership between home and school this year!

Kindest regards,

Jade Fuller, Louise Devlin and Ali-May Hignell

## YEAR 4

### HOME / SCHOOL TIMETABLE

MONDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Reading book and diary to be brought into school</li></ul>
TUESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Reading diary to be brought into school</li><li>✓ Swimming Kit (4F class only)</li><li>✓ PE kit to be worn to school</li><li>✓ Spelling test</li></ul>
WEDNESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Reading diary to be brought into school</li></ul>
THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Reading diary to be brought into school</li><li>✓ Mymaths homework is set and due</li><li>✓ Timetable test</li></ul>
FRIDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Reading diary to be brought into school</li><li>✓ PE kit to be worn to school</li><li>✓ KS2 Library visit</li></ul>